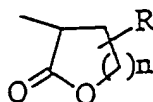


1 ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A resist composition includes a polymer principal chain, a carboxyl group having a protective group and bonding to a side chain of the polymer main chain, and an additional acidic functional group having an acid-cleavable protective group and bonding to a side chain of the polymer main chain, wherein the carboxyl group has a lactone structure represented by a formula

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(wherein n is an integer of 1 - 4, and R represents any of a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group and an alkoxycarbonyl group and connected to an arbitrary position of said lactone structure excluding a second position forming an ester bonding) as the protective group.

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